

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100206

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ORIGIN SS-10

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DRAFTED BY: EA/K:EKELLY:CHG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 100206

EXDIS CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

MILITARY ADDRESSEES PLEASE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 100206 ACTION SEOUL INFO USUN
NEW YORK 30 APRIL.

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 100206

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, UN, US

SUBJECT: UNITED NATIONS COMMAND

REF: STATE 97867

1. IN APRIL 29 CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB, KOREAN
AMBASSADOR HAHM RAISED UNITED NATIONS COMMAND. HAHM
EXPLAINED THAT IN HIS RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN SEOUL HE
HAD DISCUSSED UN STRATEGY EXTENSIVELY WITH FOREIGN
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PAGE 02 STATE 100206

MINISTER KIM AND BLUE HOUSE SPECIAL ASSISTANT CHOE. HE HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY KIM TO INFORMALLY EXPLORE WITH DEPARTMENT POSSIBILITY OF UNILATERAL TERMINATION OF UNC.

2. STATING WE LACKED SUFFICIENT VOTES TO DEFEAT HOSTILE RESOLUTION THIS YEAR, HAHM ASKED US TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER COMPLETE TERMINATION OF UNC, TRANSFERRING ALL UNCRESPONSIBILITIES TO ROK SIDE. IN ANNOUNCING SUCH A DECISION, HAHM PROPOSED USG AND ROKG WOULD MAKE CLEAR ROKG WOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND WOULD MAINTAIN THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION. IF NORTH KOREA THEN DECLARED ARMISTICE AGREEMENT NULL AND VOID, HAHM PROPOSED THAT WE SEEK A UNGA RESOLUTION WHICH NOTED DISSOLUTION OF UNC AND CALLED ON PARTIES TO ARMISTICE AGREEMENT TO RESPECT AGREEMENT.

3. HAHM EMPHASIZED ROKG STRONGLY WISHES TO AVOID DEFEAT IN UNGA AND IS WILLING TO TAKE RISK OF NORTH KOREA DENOUNCING ARMISTICE AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN FAVORABLE UNGA VOTE. HE OFFERED OPINION THAT NORTH KOREA WOULD NOT DENOUNCE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT NOR WOULD UNGA PASS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL OF US TROOPS IF UNC HAD BEEN DISSOLVED. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, HAHM SAID HIS PROPOSAL HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES NOR HAS IT YET BEEN APPROVED BY PRESIDENT PARK.

4. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB SAID HE SAW PROBLEMS WITH THIS APPROACH TO UNC QUESTION. HOWEVER HE SAID WE WOULD GIVE HAHM OUR INITIAL REACTION SHORTLY.

5. HAHM ALSO TOLD HABIB THAT VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LHO IS NOW IN NEW YORK AND WANTS TO VISIT WASHINGTON MAY 1 AND 2 TO MEET WITH SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS. HAHM DID NOT EXPLICITLY LINK LHO'S WASHINGTON STOP TO UN STRATEGY PROBLEM BUT WE EXPECT THIS IS PURPOSE OF VISIT.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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